



# **SOLDIERS GUIDE TO FINANCIAL ENTITLEMENTS - KOREA**

*HOW YOUR PAY STACKS UP WHILE IN KOREA*

*2018 Edition*



Find us on Facebook: 176<sup>th</sup> Financial Management Support Unit





# ***KOREA ENTITLEMENTS HANDBOOK***

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# ***KOREA ENTITLEMENTS HANDBOOK***

## **PREFACE**

We have designed this quick reference handbook to provide you with an understanding of military pay entitlements and allowances related to service in The Korean Theater of Operations (KTO) during armistice. It contains a brief explanation of each entitlement or allowance, who is eligible to receive it, and the applicable amount(s). No quick reference handbook can answer all questions for all situations, and this is not the intent. You should direct questions concerning individual situations and unique circumstances to your Unit S1 and/or the 176<sup>th</sup> Financial Management Support Unit.

The presence of an entitlement or allowance in this handbook does not guarantee that every Soldier in the KTO is authorized to receive the entitlement or allowance. To qualify for an entitlement or allowance, each Soldier must meet the criteria governed by the applicable regulation and be able to substantiate with applicable documentation prior to receipt of payment.

An entitlements map of all areas within Korea is on page 4.





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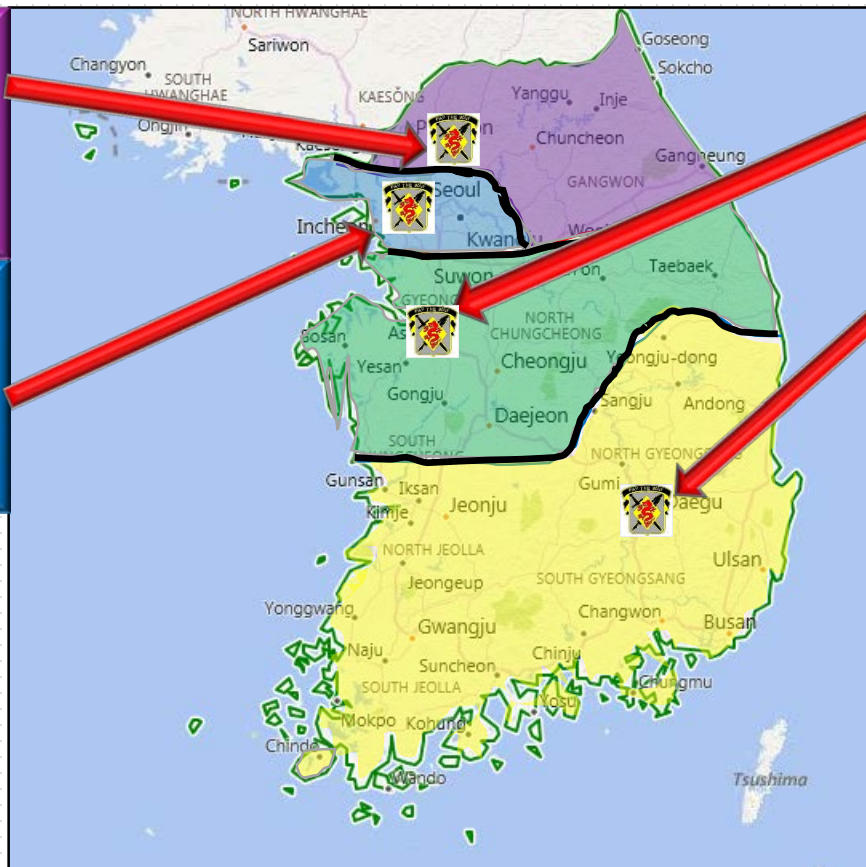
## Entitlements Map

### Area I:

176<sup>th</sup> FMSU Office: Camp Casey  
 Hardship Duty Pay: \$150 (Camp Casey, Camp Hovey, Camp Red Cloud, Camp Jackson)

### Area II:

176<sup>th</sup> FMSU Office: USAG Yongsan  
 Hardship Duty Pay: \$50 (USAG Yongsan, Camp Mercer, Chunchon, Inchon)



### Area III:

176<sup>th</sup> FMSU Office: USAG Humphreys  
 Hardship Duty Pay: \$50 (Osan, USAG Humphreys, Suwon, Weonju, Taejon)  
 \$100 (Yongin)

### Area IV:

176<sup>th</sup> FMSU Office: Camp Henry  
 Hardship Duty Pay: \$50 (Camp Walker, Camp Carroll, Camp Henry)  
 \$100 (Gwang Ju AB, Pohang)





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## **Family Separation Allowance**

Family Separation Allowance (FSA) is intended to offset added expenses incurred by a member due to enforced separation from dependents. FSA is payable at \$250 per month (\$8.33 per day). Entitlement begins the day of departure from home station and ends the day prior to return to home station. It will appear as FSA on the Leave and Earning's Statement (LES).

FSA is payable to any Soldier with dependents who is TDY for more than 30 days and the dependents are not residing at or near the TDY station. FSA is generally payable to a dual military couple with no dependents, if the couple resided together before being separated, and are deployed to different locations. (Only one member is entitled even if both are deployed).

Soldiers are required to complete a DD Form 1561 before FSA may start. Agents may not sign the DD Form 1561 on behalf of the Soldier. Link to DD Form 1561 can be found below.

[Link to DD Form 1561](#)



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## **Basic Allowance for Substance (BAS)**

Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) is a cash allowance intended to help reimburse Soldiers for expenses incurred when subsisting themselves.

While stationed in South Korea, BAS is payable to all officers, warrant officers, and enlisted members. As of 1 January 2016, the standard rate for officers is \$253.63 per month. The standard rate for enlisted is \$368.29 per month. Entitlement begins the day of departure and ends the day of return to home station. Those Soldiers who hold a meal card will have their meal deductions started on day of arrival. If a Soldier needs to be reimbursed for meals paid out of pocket due to a Dining Facility not being available, the Soldier will be required complete a DD Form 1475. Link to DD Form 1475 can be found below.

[Link to DD Form 1475](#)



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## **Housing Allowance for Service Members**

Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) is a cash allowance intended to help reimburse soldiers for expenses incurred when quarters are not provided by the government.

Active component Soldiers who were entitled to BAH should entitle to OHA unless other circumstances change (e.g. designated authority revokes Soldier's authorization to reside off-post). Likewise, Soldiers who were not receiving OHA generally continue non-receipt unless other circumstances change (e.g. Soldier's marital status changed). Reserve component Soldiers must establish entitlement to OHA upon mobilization.

For active component Soldiers, OHA rates vary by rank, dependent status, and assigned permanent duty station. While in Korea, the OHA rate continues based on the service member's assigned area. This rate does not change even if service member choose to relocate to another area for duration of their time in Korea, unless orders are issued to assign the Soldier to a new designated location – then OHA is based on the new designated location.







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## **Housing Allowance for Dependents**

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) and Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) is a cash allowance intended to help reimburse soldiers for expenses incurred when quarters are not provided by the government for his or her dependents.

While on an unaccompanied (or restricted) tour in South Korea, BAH entitlements do not normally change. If the Soldier's dependents reside in different location (U.S. or another overseas location) than the Service Member, the dependents are entitled to BAH/OHA.

For active component Soldiers, BAH/OHA rates vary by rank, dependent status, and location of dependents. BAH/OHA continues based on service member's dependent's location if on an unaccompanied tour. This rate does not change even if dependents choose to relocate to another area for duration of their time in Korea, unless orders are issued to assign the dependents to a new designated location – then BAH/OHA is based on the new designated location.







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## **Cost of Living Allowance**

Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) is a cash allowance intended to enable an equitable standard of living in areas where costs of living is unusually high.

Members permanently assigned to certain designated areas receive this entitlement. COLA rates vary by rank, dependent status, number of dependents, and assigned permanent duty station. However, if dependents return to CONUS or leave the PDS area for more than 30 days, COLA is changed to reflect the number of dependents remaining at the PDS. If all dependents leave the PDS for more than 30 days, then COLA changes to the without dependent rate. For an accurate calculation of COLA, please follow the link below.

[Overseas COLA Calculator](#)





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## **Hardship Duty Pay**

Hardship Duty Pay (HDP) is a special pay intended to compensate Soldiers serving in locations where living conditions create undue hardship on them.

It is payable to all Soldiers who are performing official duties for more than 30 days in a designated hardship duty location (see below).

HDP rates vary by location and are paid on a monthly basis. Entitlements begin the day of arrival in the designated location and ends the day of departure. Specified amounts are the maximum receivable for a given month.

**AREA I: \$150**

**AREA II: \$50**

**AREA III: \$50**

**AREA IV: \$50**

**Other:**

**Gwang Ju AB, Pohang, Yongin: \$100**





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## **Special Extension Entitlements (AIP)**

Assignment Incentive Pay (AIP) is part of a special incentive package for eligible Soldiers assigned to a specific unit whose tours are extended during designated deployments and/or hardship assignments. Authority to pay must be designated by the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) and will state eligibility criteria, amount, and payable time period.

Active component Soldiers may choose to receive AIP or tour stabilization at home duty station for a length of time equal to the hardship tour period. AGR Soldiers have this same option.





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## **Korea Rotational Forces (KRF)**

Soldiers assigned to a CONUS duty station who are on rotational orders to Korea are considered Korea Rotational Force (KRF). All finances for these Service Members are handled through the Soldier's Unit S1. Service Members serving on a rotational basis with financial issues should be handled by respective Financial Office at home duty station. 176<sup>th</sup> FMSU can assist KRF Soldiers on a case by case situation. Entitlements for KRF Soldiers are listed below:

- Family Separation Allowance
- Hardship Duty Pay
- Assignment Incentive Pay
- Meal Deductions will be started





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Contact Information

**FMSU Commander**

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Detachment Sergeant: SFC Mitchell Howard

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**Area II:**

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**Area III:**

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